(ii) Registration for a minimum period of two years at the time of applying for grant in aid.

Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and NGOs as per the norms laid down in the schemes. The details are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise. However, the guidelines and existing mechanism for sanction of grant-in-aid have adequate safety measures for detecting the irregularities in functioning of NGOs.

Central assistance to **Maharashtra for OBCs**

258. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) wheather it is a fact that the Maharashtra Government has sent a proposal for sanction of money for Central assistance under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the quantum of money released, so far, to the State Government and the number of beneficiaries under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) A proposal for release of Rs. 160 crores was received in 2006-07 but the funds could not be released as the State Government had not sent the Utilisation Certificates for the amount released in earlier years.

Under utilization of allocated funds

259. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government had surrendered hundred of crores of rupees during 2004-05 which was meant for various schemes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government had not pursued the State Governments NGOs to sent the proposals under various schemes; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) There was a saving of Rs. 145.92 crores during the year 2004-05.

(b) The saving was due to non receipt of adequate proposals from State Governments/ UT Administrations/Universities/Non Governmental Organisations etc.

(c) and (d) Concerned organisations were requested to sent the proposals in time.